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REMARKS

The Examiner's rejection of claim 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being unpatentable over the Berkovitz U.S. Patent No. 4,030,569 in view the Aulanko U.S. Patent No. 5,429,211, Scholder U.S. Patent No. 5,975,826 and Wilcox U.S. Patent No. 4,624,097 and, for some claims, further in view of Hollowell International Application 99/43595 and/or Aulanko et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,665,944, as these rejections may be attempted to be applied against the claims, are respectfully traversed.

In support of this traverse, it is pointed out that the Examiner appears to be applying some kind of piece meal approach against the pending claims and uses four documents (Berkovitz, Aulanko, Scholder and Wilcox,) to gather together or assemble the features of applicant's claim 1. Further, the Examiner appears to misunderstand some of the teachings of the references cited.

Wilcox shows certain test results comparing different ropes in circumstances that does not relate to elevators. In the table, given safety factors actually are much lower than used in elevators. In the elevators, the minimum safety factor requirement is 12. Wilcox certainly does not teach to apply arrangements of column 3 lines 5-23 to practical elevators.

Further Wilcox does not teach a ratio of substantially 30 or substantially 34 as called for in applicant's amended claims 1 and 6.

The double wrap called for in applicant's claim 1 improves traction in the machine and compensates for any poor traction of the cables in the semicircular grooves. The semicircular grooves decrease wear on the cables and compensates for any additional stress on the cable by reason of the low ratio of substantially 30 (claim 1) or substantially 34 (Claim 6) between the drive sheave diameter and the cable diameter.

The advantage of this construction is that the small diameter ratio and small diameter cable enable the use of a small diameter traction sheave. This results in

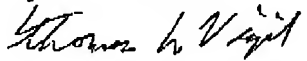
a lower torque requirement for the motor which results in a smaller, less costly and more easily installed elevator machine (in the elevator shaft).

Applicant submits that the elevator construction defined in the claims and the advantages, described above, obtained with this construction are novel and unobvious from the references cited by the Examiner, considering them individually or in combination.

In summary, applicant submits that upon reconsideration of the specification, claims and drawings, it will be clear that the claims are distinguished over the prior art cited, and that the application is otherwise in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that end is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Pyle and Piontek

By 
Thomas R. Vigil
Registration No. 24,542

Date: November 28, 2008
Chicago, IL 60601
221 N. LaSalle Street
Room 2036
(312) 236 8123